

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

July 21, 2015

Naming the View Park Library in Honor of Bebe Moore Campbell

Bebe Moore Campbell was an accomplished journalist and author, who through her writing, engaged in tireless and undaunted efforts to confront racism and challenge the stigma associated with mental illness. During her distinguished career, Ms. Campbell wrote articles for the *New York Times Magazine*, *the Washington Post*, *the Los Angeles Times*, *Essence*, *Ebony*, *Black Enterprise*, as well as many other publications. She authored four *New York Times* bestsellers: *Brothers and Sisters*, *Singing in the Come Back Choir*, *What You Owe Me*, and *72 Hour Hold*. She is also the author of the *Los Angeles Times* best seller and *New York Times* notable book of the year, *Your Blues Ain't Like Mine*, for which she won an Image Award for literature from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Ms. Campbell was also the co-founder of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)-Inglewood, now known as NAMI Urban Los Angeles. Ms. Campbell advocated for mental health education and impacted thousands of lives through her indefatigable

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efforts. In 2008, the United States House of Representatives passed a bill declaring the month of July as “Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month”.

The legacy of this remarkable author’s efforts to raise awareness for important social issues certainly will not be forgotten. Ms. Campbell was a resident of the View Park community for twenty years and NAMI Urban Los Angeles serves the jurisdiction of the County of Los Angeles' View Park Library. With this in mind, it is felicitous to honor the life of this extraordinary woman by naming the View Park Library in her honor.

**I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

Instruct the County Librarian to rename the View Park Library as the “View Park Bebe Moore Campbell Library” in her honor.

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